Coal-based power projects

1632. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:
SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for development of power projects based on indigenous coal and imported coal is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the development work of Coastal Gujarat Power Ltd., an imported coal project at Mundra, has been taken up; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Out of the proposed Eleventh Plan capacity addition of 78,577 MW, 52,905 MW is proposed to be coal based, of which projects totaling 1350 MW are envisaged to use imported coal.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Power had launched an initiative for the development of coal based Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) each of about 4000 MW capacity. Under the initiative, four pit-head sites and five sites at coastal locations have been identified by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the concerned States. The UMPP at Mundra in Gujarat is one of the coastal sites. The developers, that is, M/s. Tata Power Company Ltd. in respect of this project had been selected through a tariff based competitive bidding process, and the Special Purpose Vehicle *i.e.* Coastal Gujarat Power Limited (CGPL) which had been set up for the Project has also been transferred to the developer. CGPL has informed that the contracts have been entered into for supply of boiler and steam turbine generator packages. The Project is expected to give full benefits during the Twelfth Plan.

Effect of privatization of power distribution

†1633. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a change in respect of theft of electricity and complaints of the consumers in the States, where electricity has been privatized and private companies are involved in distribution and maintenance of electricity;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of complaints are being registered regarding inflated bills and incorrect meter readings at the places where electricity has been privatized;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check the activities of such companies; and

(d) the percentage increase in the rates of electricity in various States after involving private sector in power distribution?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.